

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the title to read as follows:

A CIRCUIT FOR PROTECTION AGAINST HEATING OF A PROTECTION ELEMENT OF EQUIPMENT

Please replace the paragraph (or section) beginning at page 13, line 11, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

Fig. 7 shows the equivalent diagram, based on bipolar transistors, of a protection device such as illustrated in Fig. 5. Fig. 7 enables more precisely illustrating the operation of the circuit of the present invention and, more specifically, the function of diode D in series with thyristor T2. However, it should be noted that this is an equivalent diagram and that, in practice, the protection device of the present invention will preferentially be made in the form of an integrated circuit on a single semiconductor substrate 54 and bipolar transistors such as illustrated in Fig. 7 would then have common regions for the forming of a thyristor.